

### **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Reconsideration of this application is requested.

#### **Claim Status**

Claims 1-20 were originally pending in this application. Claims 1, 6-7, 11, and 14-16 are amended. Claims 3, 13, and 18 are cancelled, without prejudice. Hence, after entry of this amendment, Claims 1, 2, 4-12, 14-17, and 19-20 are pending.

#### **Allowable Subject Matter**

Claims 3, 6, 13-15, and 18 are indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 1 is amended to include the limitations of dependent claim 3, and claim 3 is canceled. Claims 6 and 7 are amended to depend from claim 1. Claim 11 is amended to include the limitations of dependent claim 13, and claim 13 is canceled. Claims 14 and 15 are amended to depend from claim 11. Claim 16 is amended to include the limitations of dependent claim 18, and claim 18 is canceled.

For these reasons, applicant submits that claims 1, 2, 4-12, 14-17 and 19-20 are now in allowable form.

#### **Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)**

Claims 1-2, 4, 8, 10, 12, 16-17, and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Osada (USPN 6,211,966) in view of Sampath (USPN 6,665,425). In view of the amendments discussed above, these grounds for rejection should be withdrawn.

#### **Conclusion**

This application is now believed to be in form for allowance. The examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned to resolve any issues that remain after entry of

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this amendment. Any fees due in connection with this response may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 50-1314.

Respectfully submitted,  
HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

Date: September 28, 2004

By: 

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